

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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DEPT PASS ACDA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, IAEA, EC
SUBJECT: EURATOM SAFEGUARDS

REF: A) IAEA VIENNA 10137, B) IAEA VIENNA 10138 C) EC BRUSSELS 12301

1. ON DECEMBER 13 AT LUXEMBOURG, EC SAFEGUARDS OFFICIALS (SCHLEICHER, SHARPE, ET. AL) MET WITH ACDA PERSONNEL (BORIGHT AND BARNES) AND ERDA REPRESENTATIVES (PURPLE AND ROSENTHAL, ISA). SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION TOPICS FOLLOWS:

2. IAEA-EURATOM VERIFICATION AGREEMENT.

A. SCHLEICHER'S DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUS OF BRINGING INTO FORCE OF THE AGREEMENT WAS CONSISTENT WITH RECENT REPORTS FROM THIS MISSION

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HE NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR ALL STATES TO COMPLETE THEIR NATIONAL ACTIONS BEFORE SAFEGUARDS DATA COLLECTED BY EURATOM SAFEGUARDS SYSTEMS COULD BE TRANSMITTED TO IAEA. IT IS HIS UNDER-
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STANDING THAT FRG OR BELGIUM WOULD LIKELY BE THE PACING COUNTRIES AND THAT FOR THESE COUNTRIES IT MIGHT TAKE SIX MONTHS TO A YEAR TO COMPLETE THE NECESSARY ACTIONS. (THE INTERIM ARRANGEMENT, REFTEL C, IS, OF COURSE, INTENDED TO FILL THIS GAP.)
B. SCHLEICHER EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT THERE MIGHT EXIST SOME

CONCERN AT IAEA WITH LANGUAGE CHANGES IN LATEST DRAFT PROPOSED REGULATION (REFTEL A). HE ADMITTED THAT THE CHANGES WERE THE RESULT OF NUCLEAR INDUSTRY "SHOCK" ON SEEING THE FIRST DRAFT, BUT INSISTED THAT THEY WERE NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGES AND WERE CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT.

C. FACILITY ATTACHMENTS AND SUBSIDIARY ARRANGEMENTS. MR. SHARPE DESCRIBED PRESENT STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH IAEA ON THE SIX EXAMPLE FACILITY ATTACHMENTS SELECTED IN 1972 TO SERVE AS MODELS. NO INSURMOUNTABLE PROBLEMS REMAIN ON THE EXAMPLE ATTACHMENTS FOR THE VARIOUS TYPE OF FACILITIES SELECTED EXCEPT FOR PRESSURIZED WATER REACTORS (PWRs). FOR PWRs, EURATOM AND IAEA ARE REPORTEDLY AT AN IMPASSE WHICH ARISES FROM A BASIC DISAGREEMENT ON THE DEGREE OF INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION INSISTED ON BY IAEA. NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THESE TWO AGENCIES ON THIS DISPUTE HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN SUSPENDED. SHARPE SAID THERE WERE 112 FACILITY ATTACHMENTS TO BE PREPARED, OF WHICH ABOUT 60 HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO IAEA. THE BULK OF THE REMAINING FACILITY ATTACHMENTS ARE FOR FRG INSTALLATIONS FOR WHICH EURATOM JUST RECENTLY RECEIVED THE NECESSARY INPUT FACILITY DATA.

3. JOINT EURATOM-U.S. TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP. IT WAS AGREED BY ALL PARTIES THAT RESUMPTION OF MEETING OF THIS WORKING GROUP IS APPROPRIATE. EURATOM HAS SENT LETTER TO EC WASHINGTON OFFICE SUPPORTING THE REACTIVATION OF THE GROUP AND IS WAITING FOR U.S. RESPONSE. SEVERAL POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED AS WELL AS POSSIBLE TIMING FOR THE FIRST SESSION. FOR FIRST MEETING WITH SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA, EURATOM SUGGESTED LATE FEBRUARY OR EARLY MARCH 1977 IN THE US. MR. G. LONGO, EC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE AT THE MEETING, URGED THAT THE FIRST MEETING TAKE PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THE GROUP COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE IN HELPING EC FIND A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO BRINGING THE EURATOM-IAEA VERIFICATION AGREEMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTO FORCE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. HE FEELS THAT THE CURRENT EC DILEMMA WOULD BE EASED IF THROUGH THE JOINT WORKING GROUP THE U.S. COULD REASSURE ITSELF OF THE VALIDITY OF THE EURATOM SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM.

4. MISSION COMMENT: WE AGREE RESUMPTION OF JOINT WORKING GROUP IS GOOD IDEA AND SUGGEST DEPARTMENT AND ERDA INITIATE A POSITIVE APPROACH TO EC. THE PRESENT IMPASSE ON FACILITY ATTACHMENTS IS OF CONCERN SINCE THE BASIC PROBLEM WILL EVENTUALLY NEED TO BE RESOLVED BY THE TWO PARTIES WITH OR WITHOUT THE PROPOSED EC COUNCIL REGULATION (PARA 2, ABOVE). WE SUGGEST (TO US MISSION VIENNA) THAT A MEETING BETWEEN USEC AND US MISSION VIENNA MIGHT BE USEFUL IN EXPLORING POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO HELP BREAK THE IMPASSE AS WELL AS TO GAIN BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR RESPECTIVE PERCEPTIONS OF PROBLEMS FACING EURATOM, IAEA, AND THE USG (REFTEL B). WE WOULD WELCOME VISIT OF AMBASSADOR STONE

AND SOME OF HIS STAFF HERE OR ALTERNATIVELY WE ARE PREPARED TO GO TO VIENNA. AS FOR THE PRECEDENT PROBLEM, WHICH WE RECOGNIZE TO BE IMPORTANT, WE HAVE ONE OBSERVATION. A SITUATION IN WHICH NINE DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES IN CONTEXT OF A MULTINATIONAL COMMUNITY ARE SAFEGUARDING EACH OTHER IS NOT COMPARABLE TO A NATIONAL SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM IN KEY RESPECTS AND IAEA AS WELL AS USG WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO SO INSIST IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. END COMMENT. HINTON

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